

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by Hagerman et al. (U.S. 4,685,671). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Applicant's invention differs from the device shown in Hagerman et al. in that it has a flat, flexible strap which is folded back upon itself with an anchor which projects laterally from opposite sides of the strap midway for engagement with a door and jamb between which the strap is inserted. Hand grips in the form of lengths of flat, flexible material formed into loops are attached to the free ends of the strap by buckles. This is a very different structure than the device shown in Hagerman et al. which has a tubular elastic cord 11 which passes through a grommet 22 in a strap 27 that is trapped in a doorway by closing the door, with handles 12 attached to the free ends of the elastic cord by plugs 18 and additional grommets 22.

Claim 9 is being cancelled, and the remaining claims are being amended in a manner which should clarify the differences between applicant's invention and the device shown in Hagerman et al.

As amended, Claim 1 distinguishes over Hagerman et al. in calling for a flat, flexible strap, a pair of hand grips attached to opposite ends of the flat, flexible strap, and an anchor attached to the flat, flexible strap midway between the hand grips and extending laterally from opposite sides of the strap for engagement with the door with the flat, flexible strap passing between an edge of the door and the adjacent jamb, and the anchor and the hand grips being positioned on opposite sides of the door.

Claims 2 and 3 depend from Claim 1 and are directed to patentable subject matter for the same reasons as their amended parent claim. In addition, Claim 2 further distinguishes in specifying that the hand grips comprise lengths of flat, flexible material which are formed into loops and attached to the ends of the strap by buckles. Claim 3 further distinguishes in specifying that the anchor is a buckle, and the flat, flexible strap is folded back upon itself about a central portion of the buckle.

Claim 4, as amended, distinguishes over Hagerman et al. In calling for the combination of a door mounted in a jamb, a pair of flat, flexible exercise straps passing between an edge of the door and the jamb, hand grips attached to the flat, flexible straps on one side of the door, and an anchor attached to the straps on the side of the door opposite the hand grips and extending laterally from opposite sides of the straps

in engagement with the door and the jamb for retaining the straps against the pull of an exerciser on the hand grips.

Claims 5 - 7 depend from Claim 4 and are directed to patentable subject matter for the same reasons as their amended parent claim. In addition, Claim 5 further distinguishes in specifying that the straps are end portions of an elongated strap which is folded back upon itself about a portion of the anchor, and Claim 6 further distinguishes in specifying that the hand grips comprise lengths of flat, flexible material which are formed into loops and attached to the straps by buckles. Claim 7 specifies that the anchor is a buckle.

Claim 8, as amended, distinguishes over Hagerman et al. in calling for an elongated strap which is flat and flexible, a hand grip and an anchor attached to opposite ends of the strap, the strap being adapted to pass between the door and the jamb, with the anchor and the hand grip on opposite sides of the door, and the anchor extending laterally from opposite sides of the flat strap and abutting against the door and the jamb to retain the strap in position when a pull is exerted on the strap by an exerciser.

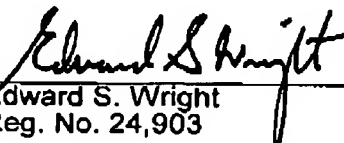
Claim 10 is being amended to depend from Claim 8 and distinguishes over Hagerman et al. for the same reasons as its amended parent claim. In addition, it further distinguishes in specifying that wherein the hand grip comprises a length of flat, flexible material which is formed into a loop and attached to the end of the strap by a buckle.

Claim 11 is directed to the method of using the harness and, as amended, distinguishes over Hagerman et al. in calling for the steps passing a pair of flat, flexible straps between an edge of a door and a jamb, retaining the straps in place with an anchor which projects laterally from opposite sides of the straps on one side of the door for abutting engagement with the door and the jamb, grasping hand grips attached to free ends of the straps on the side of the door opposite the anchor, leaning away from the door, and doing an exercise while holding onto the hand grips and leaning away from the door so that body weight serves as resistance for the exercise.

With this amendment, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1 - 8, 10 and 11 are all directed to patentable subject matter and that the application is in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees required in this matter, including extension fees, to Deposit Account 50-2975, Order No. A-71254.

Respectfully submitted,

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